

He said India should also be very vigilant as the economy of Pakistan was in the doldrums. It might take any dangerous step out of frustration. "We should not forget the fact that Pakistan had a history of aggression against India and hence we should be on guard," he said.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 20
YEARS OF SERVICE OF "A SAFE
PLACE"

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with you the exemplary work of a community service organization that addressed the need for a battered woman's program in the East Bay. "A Safe Place" was founded by four women who began providing crisis counseling, referral, and information services from an office in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Oakland. Under the leadership of the Executive Director, Ms. Carolyn Russell, the agency has grown with expanded programs and services. A Safe Place continues to be the only shelter exclusively for women and children who are homeless due to domestic violence.

A Safe Place exists to provide battered women and their children with transitional and supportive services to enable them to break the cycle of violence and regain a sense of self-esteem and personal power.

A Safe Place is a comprehensive and holistic approach to service the needs of battered women and children under the Domestic Violence Assistance program. This program consists of Emergency Shelter, Community Counseling, Community Education and Outreach. A Safe Place provides urgent safe shelter with counseling and support services; a community counseling and support group, and education on domestic violence. A special therapeutic service is directed to children who have witnessed domestic violence. The most recent program, and one of its greatest accomplishments, is a partnership with the Oakland Police Department in its implementation of a Domestic Violence Unit located in the police department with family violence coordinators.

Recognizing that domestic violence is a health issue and battered women are seen by medical providers, A Safe Place has developed partnerships with local hospitals to develop a Domestic Violence Medical Response Project, where staff can respond to battered women who are seen in local emergency rooms and clinics.

Domestic violence in teen relationships has increased. "Young People Taking Action" is a comprehensive teen violence prevention educational program, providing education on teen relationship violence, resources and alternatives for battered teens and criteria for establishing healthy relationships. This program is successfully implemented in the Oakland Unified School District.

A Safe Place has developed partnerships and joined forces with local agencies including law enforcement, the criminal justice system, medical community, social service agencies and with families and friends of battered women. The goal is to decrease domestic violence in our community to make it a safe place for our children to have a quality of life without fear and violence.

In 1996, California law enforcement agencies fielded nearly 228,000 domestic violence related calls. National crime surveys show that domestic violence directly affects our communities and families. A Safe Place provides a refuge and an important bridge for victims of domestic abuse to move to a position where they are better able to protect themselves. Part of this process draws in members of the larger community in forums to learn more about this epidemic.

On October 23, 1998, A Safe Place will celebrate its 20th year of providing quality services to families in the East Bay in conjunction with Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

I would like to extend my congratulations to A Safe Place for 20 years of community service and to the five women being honored for their longstanding work: Liz Hendrickson, Kim Kline, Cheri Pies, Nancy Brester, and civil rights attorney, Eva Jefferson-Paterson, for her legal work on behalf of A Safe Place with the Oakland Police Department. Together with A Safe Place and other partners to decrease domestic violence, I am proud to join with A Safe Place and other partners to decrease domestic violence by encouraging the continuation of similar programs of community service to improve the quality of life of all our citizens.

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN A. ELROD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the contributions of a great public servant, Marilyn Elrod, on the occasion of her retirement from the staff of the House of Representatives. On August 31st, after more than 29 years on the Hill, Marilyn retired from her position as the minority staff director of the House National Security Committee. She will be greatly missed.

Marilyn, a native of Indiana, started her tenure on the Hill working for Representative Alard Lowenstein in June of 1969 after doing graduate work at American University. In November of 1970, Ronald V. Dellums of California was elected to Congress and before beginning his first term in the 91st Congress, Ron hired Marilyn as a military caseworker and legislative aide. From there she moved up to become the Legislative Director for Mr. Dellums, a position she held until 1983.

In 1983, Ron Dellums assumed the chair of the Military Installations and Facilities Subcommittee of the then Armed Services Committee. He quickly had Ms. Elrod appointed to the staff of the Subcommittee where she worked for the next six years. There, she helped him shift the focus of the Subcommittee toward quality of life issues for military personnel. Increased attention to housing, child development centers, and bringing installations into line with Environmental Protection Agency guidelines were all part of the new emphasis in military construction funding. Appropriately, this focus continues today.

Marilyn was assigned to be Mr. Dellums' staff person on the Research and Development Subcommittee in 1989 when he became chair of that Subcommittee. There she was a leader in the effort to have the Subcommittee make policy decisions about the military and

economic viability of future weapon systems early in the process—during the research and development phase—rather than in the procurement phase where such decisions had so often been made in the past. Earlier scrutiny where a wasteful or ineffective program could be stopped or realigned means greater savings to the taxpayer. In the same vein, she worked with Mr. Dellums to lead the fight against the wastefulness of "concurrent" research, development and procurement.

After ten years as Mr. Dellums' most trusted committee staff person, she made a bit of history. Ron Dellums was chosen by the Democratic Caucus to Chair the House Armed Services Committee—the first African American ever to do so—in January of 1993, and he immediately tapped Marilyn to be the first female staff director in the history of the Congress' four defense committees. He often told his colleagues how proud he was to have Marilyn with him to "break the glass ceiling." Two years later, Marilyn continued as staff director to the minority of the National Security Committee when the Republican party took control of the House. For the past several months, I have been proud to have her stay on as my staff director subsequent to the retirement of my good friend and colleague Ron Dellums. Though she was eligible to leave when Mr. Dellums did, I consider it a personal favor that she stayed on and helped ease the transition to a new staff director with her valuable advice and by sharing the benefit of her institutional memory.

As my colleagues and I know, having a staff person who is able to develop expertise quickly and thoroughly on a range of issues is extremely valuable. Ron Dellums knew that when Marilyn briefed him on any subject, he was getting the information and advice he needed to make competent legislative and political decisions. During her twelve years in his personal office, she was always the defense expert, but also became exceptionally knowledgeable on a variety of other subjects, especially health care legislation.

But being an expert is not enough. Working with elected officials, a staff person has to have the confidence and capability to take the policy initiatives of the Representatives and work them without straying from the electoral mandate. Marilyn, though fully capable in her own right, never crossed the line by supplanting the rights of the Members to make the decisions.

Marilyn Elrod was able to carve out a most impressive career on Capitol Hill. She started out on the bottom rung of the ladder as an entry-level administrative staff person in 1969 and, with all of the downward pressures that women have as they rise through an institution, advanced to become the staff director of the House Armed Services Committee. Being the first to accomplish such an achievement, she has set an example for others to emulate.

When staff director of the Armed Services Committee and minority staff director of the National Security Committee, Marilyn displayed her incredible strength as an administrator and her mastery of the legislative process. She brought a management style to the Committee which was a combination of openness, fairness and consultation. It is part of the Dellums-Elrod legacy that a progressive, liberal ascended to be the head of the Armed Services Committee and led it with intelligence, vision and fairness. They rose to the

occasion and discharged their leadership responsibilities to the institution.

Marilyn Elrod is a person who understands the right and responsibility of an American to thoroughly investigate government policy and, using her influence as a staff person, would always try to craft the best legislative product. She did it with a sense of humor, a sense of duty and above all, a sense of patriotism. She is a dedicated American in the finest tradition, and this institution will greatly miss her.

TRIBUTE TO THE PLANT A ROW
FOR THE HUNGRY PROJECT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the many Coloradans who contributed hard work, selfless dedication, community spirit and fresh produce to the Plant a Row for the Hungry Project. This locally organized, nationally recognized project asks local gardeners to donate fresh produce for local people in need.

Last spring, seed packets were given out to many participants in the program. Now, their gardens are overflowing with fresh vegetables, many of which were donated to local residents living below the poverty line.

Susan Moore, Becky Simmons and the rest of the staff at Gulley's Greenhouse contributed storage space, time and labor as did Chuck Gill and Paul Blackburn of the Larimer County Food Distribution Center. These fine people handled, stored and distributed bushels of cucumbers, carrots, squash, lettuce and peppers locally for the program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ms. Susan Moore, Ms. Becky Simmons, Mr. Chuck Gill and Mr. Paul Blackburn for all of their fine efforts. Particularly, I would like to recognize the many participants in the program. Their toil has brought forth produce from the land, and food for the needy.

Often, we don't recognize those who provide us with the essentials of life like food, water, shelter and security. Like the many farmers in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, these local gardeners strengthen the age-old bond between land, labor, food and happiness.

CHILD POVERTY AND BLOCK
GRANTS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would link HHS award granting to child poverty rates.

As part of welfare reform, the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant program (TANF), provides over \$1 billion for incentive awards to states. Beginning in FY 1999, TANF's High Performance Bonus Award program will give bonuses to states that reduce the number of welfare recipients. In an unrelated section of the bill, TANF requires that states determine the rate of child poverty

each year and initiate corrective action if the rate increases above five percent from the previous year due to the TANF program. There is no linkage between the receipt of a high performance bonus award and child poverty rates. Therefore, under the current system, a state could sustain a dramatic increase in child poverty rates and still qualify for a bonus award if enough adults have been removed from the welfare rolls.

Such an outcome would not only constitute a major "disconnect" in welfare policy but is highly likely. For instance, in recent testimony about the Summer Food Service Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) found that TANF caused half of the states to reduce the number of food items in the meals or reduce the number of meal locations. GAO predicted that 2 million children would be provided insufficient meals, would travel further to obtain meals or may go hungry because meals will not be served in an accessible location. Under the current rules, states that reduced the lunch program would be eligible for bonus grants. I am sure my colleagues will agree with me that this result, though unintended, is something we cannot ignore, or allow to continue.

This legislation would require HHS to consider child poverty rates prior to granting awards and prohibits an award to any state that allows child poverty to increase more than 5 percent per year. My colleagues, if you share my concern about the well being of children under welfare reform, join me in support of this timely and needed legislation.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ARMY RESERVES
AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO
CALIFORNIA

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the great contributions of the United States Army Reserve to our country. I particularly want to recognize the 63rd Regional Support Command in California. The Army Reserve was started as a pool of people whose professional skills were not regularly needed during peacetime, but were critical during deployment and mobilization. The Reserves have grown to fill a critical need for our armed services in war and peace.

The Army Reserve has served in every major American military operation since its establishment and has played a key role in supporting international peacekeeping missions around the world. Additionally, the mission of the Reserve goes far beyond aiding American interest missions abroad. An often forgotten contribution of our Army Reservists is their role here at home supporting fellow Americans in the event of disasters.

No discussion of the United States Army Reserves would be complete without mentioning their greatest resource of all—their people. These are citizen-soldiers—the fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, husbands and wives—that give their time to serve and protect us at home and abroad. These noble men and women make up 20 percent of the Army's

organized units, provide 46 percent of the Army's combat service support and 30 percent of the Army's combat support. All of this is done for about 5 percent of the Army's budget. Having served for 8 years in strategic intelligence with the Army Reserve, I can attest to the important role for these men and women.

In Southern California, the U.S. Army 63rd Regional Support Command proudly stands as our regional branch of the Army Reserve. This Support Command was established originally to help the 63rd Infantry Division support relief efforts during natural disasters and other regional crises more quickly. Headquartered in Los Alamitos, California, the 63rd Regional Support Command continues to support Active Army missions with more than 14,000 soldiers.

In response to a downsized force and frequently shifting missions, the United States Army Reserve announced in 1995 its largest realignment in decades. This realignment led to the 63rd having its geographic boundaries realigned to conform with the standard Federal district observed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The 63rd Regional Support Command continues to provide combat support and combat service support to field units during deployments. The 63rd adds flexibility to our Active Army force by filling in for troops deployed abroad. Furthermore, the 63rd is trained to provide medical units; port, rail, and other transportation support; as well as acting as a training base during full mobilization.

Presently, the 63rd Regional Support Command has control of more than 14,000 men and women serving in approximately 140 units in my home State of California, as well as Arizona and Nevada. Commanded by Brigadier General John L. Scott, the 63rd will certainly continue to shine as a keen example of the importance and prominence of the United States Army Reserve.

Today, the Army Reserve is positioned better than ever to be an active and vital player in America's Active Army. The Army Reserve stands as a symbol of the strength of the American citizen-soldier and I want to thank the Army Reserve for the continuation of their past efforts and their 90 years of dedicated service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 1, 1998 for roll call votes 474 and 475. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 474 and "yea" on roll call vote 475.

THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF
REPRESENTATIVE LEE HAMIL-
TON OF INDIANA

SPEECH OF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, being unable to attend the Special Order for retiring Congressman LEE HAMILTON, I take this means to